

## Message Text

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PAGE 01     NAIROB 14491 231424Z  
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /009 W  
----- 106758 /42  
P 231359Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PHORITY 4973

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 14491

AF FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE ONLY

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PDIP, PINR, KE, US  
SUBJ: JOHN PETER MBOGUA: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

REF: (A) NAIROBI 14306 (B) NAIROBI 14420

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION SUPPLEMENTS CURRICULUM VITAE OF AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE JOHN PETER MBOGUA SUPPLIED BY GOK IN CONFECTION WITH AGREEMENT REQUEST (REF A).

2. MBOGUA, NAIROBI'S TOWN CLERK (EQUIVALENT TO CITY MANAGER) FROM 1967 UNTIL OCTOBER 1976, HAS FOR THE LAST SIX YEARS WORKED DIRECTLY WITH MAYOR MARGARET KENYATTA IN THE DAILY ADMINISTRATION OF THE CITY. DURING THAT TIME THEY HAVE BECOME POLITICAL ALLIES AND CLOSE FIRENDS; IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT MBOGUA OWES HIS APPOINTMENT TO MISS KENYATTA.

3. MBOGUA RESIGNED HIS POSITION IN OCTOBER DUE TO LACK OF SUPPORT BY CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS. PRIMARILY BY HIS REFUSAL EARLIER THIS YEAR TO COMPROMISE ALLOCATION CRITERIA SET BY USAID FOR ITS HOUSING PROJECT, HE HAD ANTAGONIZED THE MAJORITY OF HIS COLLEAGUES WHO RESPONDED BY VOTING AGAINST HIS PROGRAMS AND PROPOSALS. CONSTANT ABUSE FROM THE COUNCILLORS, HIS RESULTANT INEFFECTIVENESS IN GETTING ANYTHING ACCOMPLISHED IN THE COUNCIL, AND ESPECIALLY HIS ADVANCE  
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KNOWLEDGE (FROM AS EARLY AS MID-OCTOBER) THAT HIS PRIMARY SUPPORTER, MAYOR KENYATTA, WAS ALSO PLANNING TO LEAVE THE CITY GOVERNMENT (REF B) UNDOUBTEDLY LED TO HIS DECISION TO QUIT. AT ONE POINT THE COUNCIL HOUSING COMMITTEE HAD RECOMMENDED THAT HE BE TERMINATED, BUT THE MAYOR HAD BLOCKED ANY FURTHER ACTION ON THE RECOMMENDATION. THE COUNCILLORS

WERE ALSO MIFFED OVER MBOGUA'S OPPOSITION TO A SALARY HIKE  
THEY HAD VOTED THEMSELVES.

4. MBOGUA IS WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO USAID OFFICER WHO  
HAS DEALT REGULARLY WITH HIM. HE IS HIGHLY RESPECTED FOR

HIS ADMINISTRATIVE TALENTS, AND IN TERMS OF PERSONAL INTEGRITY  
ENJOYS A BETTER REPUTATION THAN MOST CIVIL SERVANTS OF HIS  
RANK. HE IS KNOWN TO BE WELL DISPOSED TOWARD THE UNITED  
STATES, AN ATTITUDE EVIDENTLY REINFORCED DURING HIS STAY  
THERE AS A LECTURER AND EISENHOWER FELLOW.

5. UPON PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF MBOGUA'S APPOINTMENT, FORE-  
GOING INFORMATION MAY BE DISSEMINATED THROUGH NORMAL BIO-  
GRAPHIC CHANNELS AT DEPARTMENT'S DISCRETION.  
MARSHALL

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